

Proposal Solicitation Package Approval

Requested Action: Direct the Executive Officer to enter into grant agreements for Delta Science Program research projects from the 2010 Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP). Thirteen projects (see Attachment 1) for a total cost of \$7,095,185 over a three-year period are recommended for funding.

Background

In April 2010 the Council approved release of the Delta Science Program's 2010 Focused Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP). The Lead Scientist provided information on his funding recommendations to the Council at its February 24-25, 2011 meeting.

The goal of the PSP is to invest in new scientific knowledge that will fundamentally advance the understanding of the complex environments/systems within the Council's jurisdiction to aid policy-makers and managers. Research will be done in four topic areas: Native Fish Biology and Ecology; Food Webs of Key Delta Species and their Relationship to Water Quality and Other Drivers; Coupled Hydrologic and Ecosystem Models; and Water and Ecosystem Management Decision Support System Development. A total of 49 proposals requesting \$30,843,088 in funding were received by the June 30, 2010 deadline. Each of these proposals has undergone several levels of review, an administrative review, a minimum of two independent external scientific reviews, and multiple reviews by the Final Review Panel (FRP). The FRP consisted of 13 independent scientific experts from across the country.

PSP Funding Recommendations Process

On January 19-20, 2011 the FRP met and generated its summary ratings and comments on the proposals. Lead Scientist Cliff Dahm reviewed the panel's recommendations and developed his initial funding recommendations based on the FRP summary results, the proposals, and the external and individual panelist reviews. Dr. Dahm's recommendation is for funding 13 proposals that span all four of the focused topic areas for a total of \$7,095,185 (see Attachment 1) to be used in three-year awards beginning the summer of 2011.

Public Comment

Dr. Dahm's funding recommendations were made available for public comment during February 14-25, 2011. Two public comments were received during this time period and have been considered by Dr. Dahm in making these final funding recommendations. Public comments and the response to comments (see Attachment 2) are posted on the Delta Science Program web site.

For more detailed information on the 2010 PSP and its process please visit:
http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta_science_program/research/psp_2010.html

Attachments

Attachment 1: Lead Scientist's Funding Recommendations for the 2010 PSP

Attachment 2: Public Comments on the Lead Scientist's Initial Funding
Recommendations and Delta Science Program Response to Comments

Fiscal Information

Prop 84 funding for the research grants is available from a receivable agreement with the Department of Water Resources.

Contact

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